

AN INTRODUCTION
TO STATE OF HAWAII
REHABILITATION
CENTER FOR THE
VISUALLY IMPAIRED

HO

OPONO



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1973



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American Foundation for the Blind, Inc.
15 West Sixteenth Street
New York, New York 10011

There is a native dance in Hawaii called the "Hula". Observers of this dance usually watch the hips. This is too bad for it is the hands that tell the story. Those foolish observers miss so much.

It won't be that way with this brochure. Just keep your eyes on the hands, scan the script, and you will quickly learn what Ho'opono is all about.

Seriously, I am pleased to send you this brochure of Ho'opono. It is totally a volunteer effort--photography, writing, and art work. Through the efforts of a member of the Services to the Blind Advisory Board, a sponsor was found to subsidize the printing costs. It took a while to put it altogether, but we believe the result speaks for itself.

Aloha,

Elizabeth H. Morrison
Services to the Blind Branch
Administrator

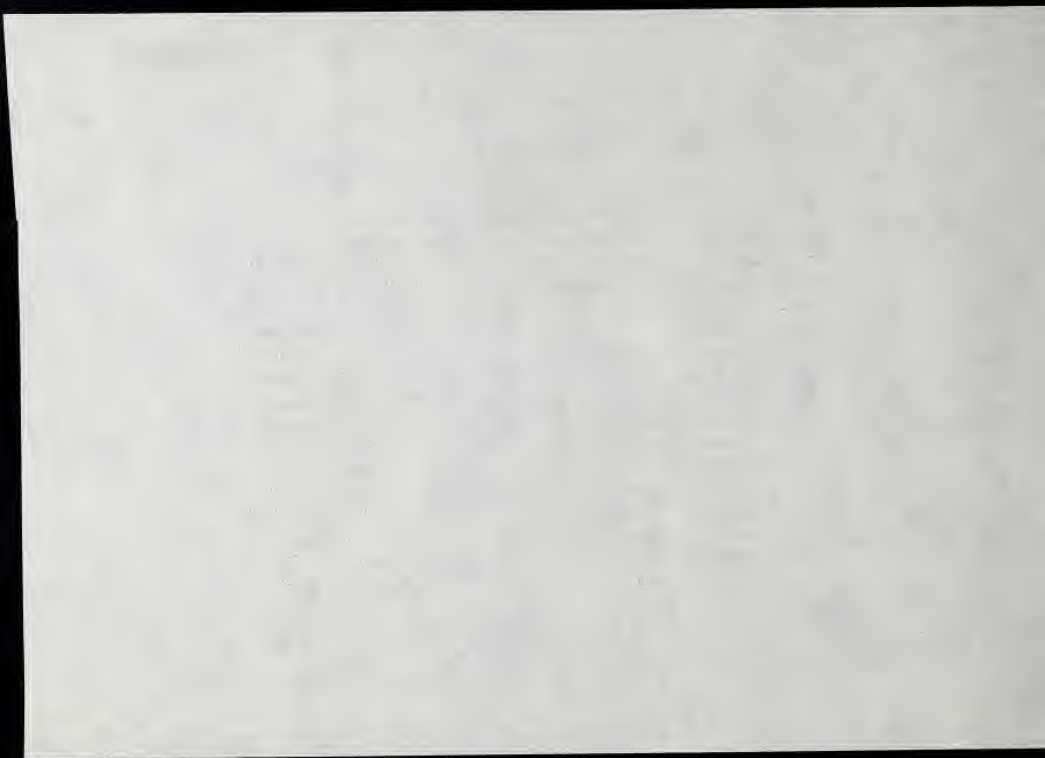


Services for the Blind Branch

Personnel

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Mrs. Mary Chang, Adjustment Section Supervisor
Mrs. Beatrice Higuchi, Counseling Section Supervisor
Mr. William Lo, Employment Section Supervisor
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Grace Miyawaki	Akira Tanigawa
Mary Miyawaki	Juanita Webb
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Services for the Blind Advisory Board

1972 - 1973

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HO'OPONO
...A HAWAIIAN
WORD MEANING
"TO MAKE
THINGS RIGHT"

HO

OPONO



AN INTRODUCTION TO HO'OPOONO

Background

The services of Ho'opono are the extension of a program initiated in the Territory of Hawaii in 1935. The program, as it exists today, began as a pilot project in 1951. The modern building with full facilities was completed in 1962 and at that time became headquarters for the present year-round program.

Goals

The goals of Ho'opono are to meet the needs of *individual* blind and partially sighted persons, through counseling and a plan of action designed to improve their standard of living and quality of life by increasing their capacities for independent living, and rehabilitating them into gainful occupations.

Learning by listening — cassette tapes.

Eligibility

Anyone with a visual impairment in need of services to overcome problems stemming from the impairment is eligible for service of Ho'opono.

In addition to resolving problems of daily living, if his goal is employment, and it is determined that the visual impairment is a handicap to securing or retaining a job, he may be eligible for vocational rehabilitation services.

The individual and his family unit are encouraged to contribute financially to the extent that they are able toward the costs of services purchased from community resources. Direct services furnished by Ho'opono personnel are provided without charge.

Each an Individual

Although all Ho'opono clients share in common certain problems which must be resolved for them to lead independent and useful lives, each is an individual. Their goals and interests differ, although their obstacles are similar. For this reason most go through the basic programs at Ho'opono, then branch out into a variety of programs which suit their needs and interests.

Program emphasis is on the total needs of the individual. For those ready to enter or re-enter the labor market, emphasis is on the vocational aspects of rehabilitation. For pre-school youngsters, emphasis is on encouraging parents to expose their child to all the same development experiences as a non-blind child. For the homemaker and individuals no longer interested in full-time employment, emphasis is on services which will help them maintain themselves in their own homes and in the community.





INDIVIDUAL PROGRAMS AT HO'OPOONO

Counseling

The most meaningful ingredient in the rehabilitation process is the relationship between the visually impaired person and his counselor or social worker. This relationship continues throughout the rehabilitation process, and the process is concluded only when the individual, his counselor and others directly involved are satisfied that the individual has, at that point in time, attained his highest productive level. This may be productive level on a job or usefulness in his own home and community.

A Plan of Action

Rebuilding confidence.

Age, degree of visual impairment, health, level of education, work experience and professed interests are all factors in an individual's program at Ho'oponohu. Whatever factors come into play, a plan of action is developed, designed to achieve a rehabilitation goal.

Initially, the goal may be rather general, aimed toward helping the individual attain maximum personal independence through acquisition of basic skills to compensate for his loss of sight.

As he acquires these basic skills, the individual may move on to Ho'oponohu's work training program and from here to job placement. For those seeking to become self-supporting in jobs and professions for which training is not available at Ho'oponohu, there are matching state-federal funds to pay for the required education.

Home Visits

Some visually impaired individuals may be just sitting at home, fearful and undecided about their future. They may not be ready to come to Ho'oponohu. When this is the situation, the Rehabilitation Teacher visits them at their place of residence. The purpose is to encourage and motivate them to become useful and active again. She introduces them to the Talking Book Machine, Talking Books, and to a variety of useful household aids and appliances. Lessons are offered in braille, typing, arts and crafts.



Talking books for reading pleasure.

A Typical Day for the Ho'opono Trainee

- 8- 8:55 Communication Skills
- 9- 9:45 Occupational Therapy*
- Break
- 10-10:55 Personal & Home Management**
- 11-11:55 Personal & Home Management
- 12-12:55 Lunch & Recreation
- 1- 1:55 Mobility
- 2- 2:55 Manual Arts***

* Tuesday — Counseling Session ** Thursday — Bowling or Swimming
*** Wednesday — Group Activity

Mobility/Travel Training

This features instruction in the scientific use of the long cane until the trainee can travel alone with confidence in safety. Training includes work in understanding the concepts of size and shape, using sound and smell as guideposts for direction, orientation to escalators and elevators, utilizing public transportation and orientation to crowded areas.

Communications Skills

It is important that the visually handicapped person be able to communicate with himself and others, and to learn more about the world around him by reading — either through "listening" to talking book machines or "reading" braille. Instruction at Ho'opono includes typing on a regular typewriter, script writing, and, of course, braille. He also learns to use a variety of other communication devices including the abacus, tape recorder, cassette and talking book machines — all to open new avenues for study and communication.

Techniques of Daily Living

The trainee is taught to meet any situation which every person encounters in his daily personal life. Instruction is given in shaving, applying makeup, choosing clothing, learning how to prepare meals, wash and iron, sew, clean house and market.

Instruction in crafts, use of hand and power tools, household repairs, currency identification and object conceptualization builds up the trainee's confidence in the utilization of senses other than vision.

BASIC TRAINING FOR INDIVIDUAL DAILY LIVING

Objectives of this initial program are to prepare the blind and partially sighted to handle basic home needs, to enable them to get from one place to another without assistance and with confidence, and in many instances, develop their vocational readiness. These skills are termed "personal adjustment services" and the "trainees" come every day for instruction in skills which increase their capacity for self-reliance.

Recreation Activities

Trainees plan and take part in a variety of recreation activities preparing themselves for fuller participation with sighted persons in on-going personal and community recreation and entertainment programs.

Regaining independent mobility.



No one will short-change her.





The cards are marked — in braille.



Cutting with a power saw.



WORK EVALUATION AND JOB TRAINING

Some trainees coming to Ho'opono have never worked. Others, because of loss of vision, are no longer able to continue on the jobs in which they have experience. To help the trainee and his counselor determine the kind of work which suits his interests and capabilities, Ho'opono provides work evaluation and training services.

Standard work stations include small bench assembly, cloth processing, small appliance repair, clerical skills, power sewing, metal and wood fabrication, film processing, vending stand operations, upholstery, furniture assembly, Hawaiian crafts, and power sanding.

Private industry positions. Staff members of Ho'opono seek out positions compatible for blind persons in private industry, such as darkroom x-ray development at Tripler Army Medical Center. The staff then trains blind persons in these particular skills by setting up a miniature work situation right at Ho'opono. In other instances on-the-job training sites will be provided by private industry with supervision provided by the Ho'opono personnel.

Employment in an auto-body shop.



THE INDEPENDENT INDIVIDUAL

Assistance in Securing Employment

When the visually impaired individual has acquired the necessary skills for a specific job, Ho'opono personnel assist him in securing employment. Assistance may include pre- and post-placement contacts with employers, help in completing job application forms, special arrangements for qualifying examinations under the civil service system, and coordination with the State Employment Services and organized labor.

Vending Stand Operation

There are 34 vending stand locations in the State of Hawaii. All are operated by individuals with visual impairments. Locations are in all major airports and most public buildings with a few on private property.

Homebound Program

Some individuals are unable to leave their home to go to work, but are eager to earn money to supplement the family income and to remain productive to the extent their capacities permit. Ho'opono furnishes them with piece-work which they can complete at their own pace. They are compensated for the completed units of work. An example are these delightful dolls, Lani and Kimo, whose bodies are braided from nylon stockings. Making doll bodies, sewing clothing and assembling the doll can all be done by the blind at home.

*The finished product, real dolls,
Lani and Kimo.*



Low Vision Clinic services fit special optical aids to the partially sighted to enable them to make maximum use of their limited vision. These individuals are most often referred to Ho'opono by their eye doctor. Here they are seen by a social worker and an optometrist in consultation with an ophthalmologist.

The success rate is better than 80%. For some it makes the difference between reading their own mail or waiting to have it read to them. For others it may be the difference between being educated in a special school or classroom, or being able to attend school in their home district.

If able to do so, individuals are expected to pay for the prescribed optical aid or appliance, and a nominal fee for service.

Sight Conservation activities include pre-school vision testing carried on by volunteer organizations, but coordinated through Ho'opono, and glaucoma detection clinics testing about 5,000 citizens yearly. Ho'opono coordinates many other such activities.

Funds for Additional Rehabilitation

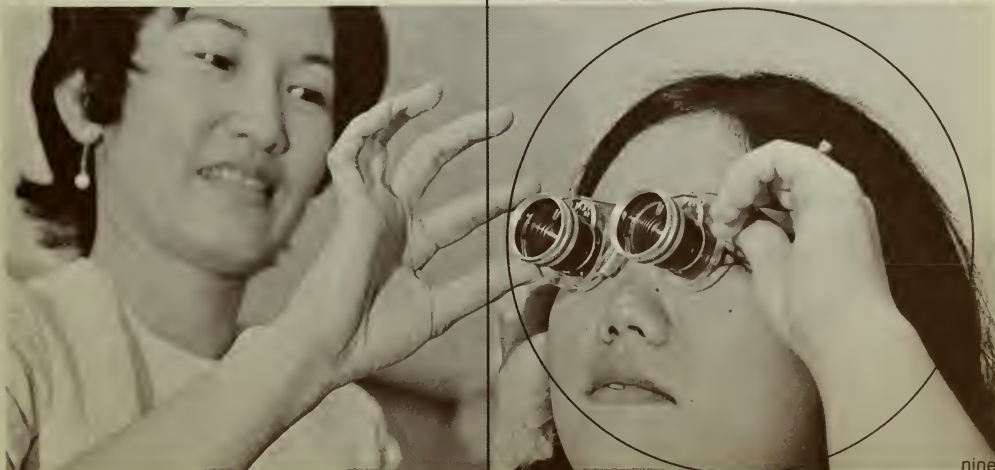
Under the vocational rehabilitation program, state/federal funds may be used by rehabilitation counselors at Ho'opono to purchase services from community resources required by the individual to attain his employment objective.

Services which may be purchased include but are not limited to physical restoration, hospitalization, training and education, books and supplies, reader and transcribing services; maintenance while in training, and transportation.

Low Vision Clinic services.

ADDITIONAL SERVICES OF HO'OPOONO

Optical aids to help you see better.



An Advisory Board of between 23 and 30 members meets at noon on the third Thursday of the month. The Program Administrator looks to the Board for suggestions and recommendations on matters of policy, changes in program emphasis, legislative direction and feedback on program acceptance. Visually impaired

HO'OPONO ADVISORY BOARD

The Board Chairman, two Vice-Chairmen, Secretary-Treasurer, and Chairmen of the Standing Committees constitute the Board's Executive Committee.

persons comprise one-third of the Board membership.

Each Board member serves on one of the following standing committees: Legislative and Finance; Program Development; Small Business Enterprise; Kōkua; and Public Relations.

The Ho'opono staff normally consists of 21 professional and 6 clerical positions. A team of four medical consultants meets with the professional personnel on a scheduled weekly basis. An optometrist spends one afternoon

HO'OPONO STAFF

a week at the Low Vision Clinic. Qualifications of professional personnel meet the standards set by the National Accreditation Council for Agencies Serving the Blind and Visually Handicapped Persons.

Volunteers are used for such activities as driving the blind, assisting in social and recreational activities, and helping with the extensive paper work.



PHYSICAL FACILITIES

Ho'opono, a modern two-level structure at 1901 Bachelot Street, was completed in 1962 and contains an enclosed area of 24,000 square feet. It is free of architectural barriers, and includes: offices for professional personnel; sound-treated, multi-purpose auditorium; full commercial kitchen and cafeteria, snack bar; a fully equipped Low Vision Clinic; large airy classrooms for instruction in manual arts, occupational therapy, and skills of communications; and, an almost unobstructed area of 8,000 square feet used for work evaluation and job training.

In addition there are covered walkways around two open patios fronting the building. The walkways are used extensively in the early phases of mobility training.

HO'OPONO HALE

There are no "live in" facilities at Ho'opono. However, the need for independent living arrangements for some of the trainees was recognized and in 1971 the State appropriated funds for the rental of a dwelling to accommodate these trainees. It is located about two blocks from Ho'opono and is called Ho'opono Hale. A part-time houseparent supervises this program.

HO'OPONO

1901 BACHELOT STREET ● HONOLULU, HAWAII 96817 ● TELEPHONE: 548-6367

Dear Reader:

We hope you enjoy this brief introduction to Ho'opono and are now better informed about the kinds of services the State of Hawaii has made available for individuals having visual impairments. We want to be of service and ask that blind and partially sighted persons, or their families, call for an appointment time.

Our office hours are 7:45 to 4:30 Monday through Friday. If anyone is unable to travel to Ho'opono, a representative from our staff will visit the home. Our telephone number is 548-7451 or 548-6367.

If the person interested in our services is a resident of one of the neighbor islands, he may obtain further information about Ho'opono by calling the Vocational Rehabilitation and Services for the Blind District Office. District offices are located in the State Office Buildings in Hilo, Hawaii (telephone 961-7331); Lihue, Kauai (telephone 245-4333); and Wailuku, Maui (telephone 244-4291).

Sincerely yours,

Elizabeth H. Morrison

(Mrs.) ELIZABETH H. MORRISON
Administrator



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1901 Bachelot Street • Honolulu, Hawaii 96817
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A Program of The Hawaii State Department of Social Services and Housing

